

1 **Abstract of the Disclosure**

2 In combination, at least one public safety answering point
3 operative to receive emergency communications from at least one
4 local exchange carrier facility and an emergency backup
5 communications system for facilitating emergency responses in the
6 event of loss of communication and/or inoperability of the local
7 public safety answering point. The emergency backup communications
8 system includes a secondary central communications facility in
9 generally independent and generally secure information transmission
10 connection with the local exchange carrier facility, interface
11 systems operative to receive and facilitate information reception
12 from both automated location identification (ALI) systems and
13 computer aided dispatch (CAD) systems. At least one operator is
14 housed within the secondary central communications facility for
15 receiving and screening the incoming emergency communications.
16 Finally, a dispatch system is operative to interpret the
17 information received via the interface systems and transmit
18 dispatch information including location and response information to
19 emergency response units.